

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2017

## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

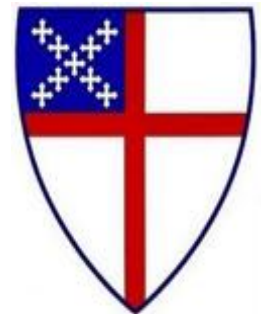
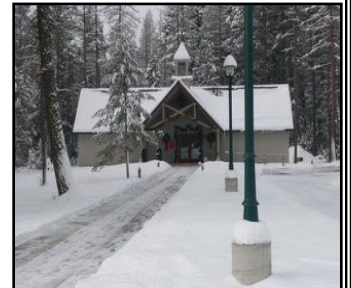
We made it! The sun is now sneaking up on us earlier and earlier each day. The evening drive home is not in darkness but during sunset with the windshield visor blocking the light not yet hidden by the Salish Mountains. And if you give me the benefit of the doubt, realizing that I never took biology, much less botany, and do not go to Dr. Solberg and ask him how completely wrong I happen to be, trees are just about ready to shuffle into post-dormancy. All this is to say, spring is on the train heading this way. The golf clubs that are in the way to getting to the car in the garage, because they were never put away, might as well stay in your path. You will be using them soon.

Nothing like the end of January! Not only is the sun showing up earlier and earlier, but so is the resumption of programing in the church. As you all know, we tend to hibernate a bit when the roads turn into hockey rinks and the snow flies. But coming up are all sorts of things. On Wednesday, February 8th, at 9:15 we resume Bible Study with the *Acts of the Apostles*. On Thursday, February 9th, following the noon Eucharist, we will start Bishop Brookhart's new book, *Journey with Jesus*. And while the event, and by that I mean **THE EVENT** of the 10th Annual Chili Open does not take place until Saturday, March 18th, we will begin planning in earnest. And then on the last day in February, we have Shrove Tuesday and the only Huckleberry Pancake Supper, with real Huckleberries, that may be actually found in the entire world of church pancake suppers. Following the next day is Ash Wednesday ushering in Lent and its spiritual journey at All Saints' and that, of course, includes Lent Madness. In other words, we, like the plants, are beginning to make ourselves known in earnest.

I mention all of this not as an advertisement, although the notices in this E-letter will hopefully help you plan to attend as many functions as you can. I mention all this because this is what it is like to live within Epiphany. We "appear" as the Body of Christ in a myriad ways. From services and deep spiritual exercises available to us during Lent, to the silliness of golfing in the snow to make a cat and dog's life easier with the proceeds going to animal groups, we simply appear to the world as the Body of Christ doing that which Jesus himself did on earth two thousand years ago. And if someone sees one of us wiping maple syrup off our chin on February 28th, and confuses us with our Lord, then we have become exactly who we were meant to be all along. We have become the visible presence of the Savior to those who are seeking good news and companionship.

So notice one another during this season celebrating the manifestation of our Lord and thus all that is going on at All Saints' as not just things that we are doing but rather look for the very presence of Jesus. He is there and delightful to behold.

Faithfully yours, Bradley



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## BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

On Wednesday morning, February 8th, at the Springs Retirement Home near North Valley Hospital, we will resume Bible Study focusing on the *Book of the Acts of the Apostles*. This particular book of the New Testament was written sometime between 85 and 95, although some have it penned during the first years of the second century. Most biblical scholars think it was written by the same person(s) who wrote the Gospel according to Luke. In essence it is a wonderful depiction of the first century church and it gives us, therefore, the beginnings of our own history. We take our time going through it and by the end of its 28 chapters, which will take us a year to cover, we will have a rather remarkable appreciation of it. What makes this Bible Study really captivating is that it is driven by the participants and their observations and questions. So grab a cup of coffee, compliments of The Springs, and join us.



## THURSDAY BOOK STUDY RESUMES

We are ready to begin a new book, *Journey with Jesus - Encountering Christ in his Birth, Baptism, Death and Resurrection*, by Bishop Frank Brookhart. It is fairly short at 127 pages but there is room for lots of contemplation and thought in what he writes. Our practice is to read from the book, out loud, stopping when we are moved to discuss what we have just heard. We have pre-ordered five books and are eager to get more. Let us know if you would like to join.

Simply bring a brown bag lunch and an appetite for exploring life in Christ.

## CHILI OPEN RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Can you name Montana's first golf tournament of the season that not only is in its tenth year but also will have a woman who at the age of 90 played in the initial Chili Open and will be returning to hit the first ceremonial drive this year at the age of 100? Yes, indeed, it is ours and Joy Crane is practicing hitting a bucket of balls even as we write.

Can you believe this is the 10th Annual Chili Open?!!!! From struggling to put together nine holes of golf in the snow, using used carpets destined for the dump, to what we have today, we have really cut a wide path in not only having lots of fun but benefitting homeless dogs and cats in the valley and on the Reservation.

Mark your calendars for not just Saturday, but also Friday, March 17th and the evening party celebrating this event at the Pomerantz home. Find some others who either golf or have never heard of the sport, and put together a team. As well, if you can provide interesting auction items, those are really appreciated. Every dime taken in at the party, from green fees (still \$20 - quite the bargain), from purchasing \$50 holes in one, and from auction items goes to benefit the animal organizations who minister to those so vulnerable in our immediate area. Lunch, of course, is included. We have room for 72 golfers so begin to form your foursomes. It will be a fabulous occasion.



## ALL SAINTS' YOUTH

By Cynthia Benkelman

**Children's Chapel:** We are continuing to alternate old testament stories with parables. It won't be long before it's Lent and we start to get ready for Easter!

**Youth Group:** Middle School and High School youth will meet in February on the 12th and the 26th from 4:45-6:30. A light supper is served along with evening programs.

**Acolytes:** We are delighted to have two new acolytes!

**ALL SAINTS' YOUTH** (cont'd)

All Saints' Youth extra activities have been in a holding pattern for awhile and the kids have missed them so they decided they wanted to have a "game night." They met the evening of January 29th in Memorial Hall for some fun and fellowship.

**ANNUAL MEETING**

All Saints' annual meeting was held on January 29th. It was a very productive meeting and there is so much to report that a special edition of the All Saints' E-letter will be coming your way shortly with all the information that came out of the meeting.





## **PANCAKE SUPPER**

**TUESDAY EVENING**

**FEBRUARY 28TH**

**MEMORIAL HALL**

**5:00 pm-6:30 pm**

**HUCKLEBERRY PANCAKES**

**SAUSAGE**

**BACON**

**SOY SAUSAGE FOR OUR VEGETARIANS**



## **THE (LENT) MADNESS IS SOON TO BE UPON US!**

By Shawn Sloan

For the fourth year, All Saints' will again participate in the world's most popular online Lenten devotion - Lent Madness.

On the five Wednesdays during Lent beginning March 8th and continuing through April 5th, we will gather in Memorial Hall at 5:30 for a light supper and then from 6:00 until 6:45 we will examine the lives of 32 saints as they battle it out in the "Saintly Smack down".

Participants will receive a Saintly Scorecard booklet which contains biographies of the 32 saints, a full color fold out bracket, a full color match up calendar, and exclusive Pocket Lent collectable playing cards (which are similar to baseball trading cards, but more fun and holier).

As is our usual practice, sign-up sheets will be posted in Memorial Hall to help us prepare the right amount of food, but as always, even if you don't sign up please feel free to join us as there is always an over abundance of food.

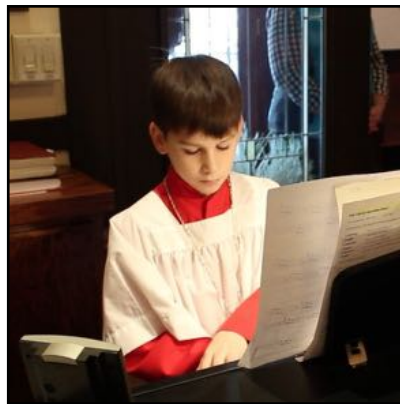


# FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Services at 9 and 11 am	6	7	8 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	9 Noon service at AS Followed by book study	10	11
12 Services at 9 and 11 am ASY meet 4:45 pm-6:30 pm	13	14 Happy Valentines Day 	15 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	16 Noon service at AS Followed by book study	17	18
19 Services at 9 and 11 am Vestry 12:15	20	21	22 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	23 Noon service at AS Followed by book study	24	25
26 Services at 9 and 11 am ASY meet 4:45 pm-6:30 pm	27	28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00 pm-6:30 pm				



## OUR NEW ACOLYTES AND MUSICIAN



We are so blessed to have children in our church so anxious to help with the services.

## ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

**Church location:**  
2048 Conn Road  
Columbia Falls, MT

**Church mailing address:**  
PO Box 1923  
Whitefish, MT 59937

Phone: 406-862-2863  
Parish Office Administrator: Shawn Sloan  
E-mail: [allsaintsmt@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsmt@gmail.com)

Bradley's E-mail: [canonwirth@gmail.com](mailto:canonwirth@gmail.com)  
Cell phone: 406-250-1690

Christian Formation Minister/Children and Youth: Cynthia Benkelman  
[cgraine@montanasky.us](mailto:cgraine@montanasky.us)  
406-261-9636

*Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus forever.*

**Find us here:**

**Just click on the link!**

**Facebook link:** <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt>

**YouTube link:** [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ\\_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA)

**Webpage link:** <http://www.allsaintsmt.org>

**Vestry members:**

Rector: Reverend Canon Bradley Wirth  
Senior Warden: Heidi Sobczak  
Junior Warden: Judi Williams  
Treasurer: Carl Thomas  
Clerk: Kathy Thomas  
Cynthia Benkelman  
Ben Bushnell  
Jan Rayford  
Shawn Sloan

Diocese of Montana:  
[www.diomontana.com](http://www.diomontana.com)  
All Saints' website: [www.allsaintsmt.org](http://www.allsaintsmt.org)  
E-letter editor: Jan Rayford  
[khatlover@msn.com](mailto:khatlover@msn.com) or  
[origkhatlover@gmail.com](mailto:origkhatlover@gmail.com)